Restriction on import of Aminophylline

1008. DR. RATNAKAR PANDEY: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what were the considerations on which restriction on imports of Aminophylline were recommended by his Ministry without fixing their fair price under the Drugs Price Control Order, 1979;

(b) whether it is a fact that at the instance of his Ministry no imports of these two drugs are being allowed in spite of the fact that these drugs are being covered under Appendix III;

(c) whether it is also a fact that producers are charging their own prices and consumer of formulations have suffered in the process;

(d) what are the reasons for not fixing fair prices before recommending import restrictions and allowing the producers to charge exorbitant prices;

(e) whether it is also a fact that on the one hand exorbitant prices are being charged and on the other supplies are not made; and

(f) if so, what action has been taken to fix responsibilty for recommending restriction on imports of these drugs at the instance of concerned producers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICAL IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH): (a) As the total installed capacity of the indigenous manufacturers was more than the total estimated demand, it was decided to shift the imports of these drugs to Appendix III of the Import-Policy in order to provide protection to indigenous production.

(b) Imports are being regulated as per the indigenous availability of drugs. Imports of these drugs are allowed as and when shortfall is reported.

(c) to (f) Government has not notified the prices of Aminophylline and Theophylline under the Drugs Price Control Order, 1979 so far because the Bureau of Industrial Cost and Prices have not conducted cost-cum-technical study.

Tariff Mechanism on Drugs

1009. DR. RATNAKAR PANDEY: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that his Ministry proposed to discontinue the system of retention and pooled price and give protection to indigenous production through tariff mechanism;

(b) whether his Ministry has made any study of this proposal;

(c) if so, what are the details thereof;

(d) whether it is also a fact that degree of relation between landed cost and indigenous price differs from drug to drug; and

(e) what is the indigenous price of Tetracycline HCl, Gentamycin, Vitamin B6, Vitamin B1, Ibuprofen, Furazlidone as well as CIF Price of each of these drugs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICAL IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The decision has been taken after due consideration.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) The required information to the extent available, is given in the attached Statement.